



Ninety-Seventh Legislature - First Session - 2001
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 67

Chairperson: Senator DiAnna R. Schimek
Committee: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
Date of Hearing: January 18, 2001

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

In light of Florida's recent presidential election experience, the national spotlight has been placed on the process of conducting elections, including how we, as citizens, are allowed to vote, and how those votes are counted. LB 67 is being introduced so that we may thoroughly examine the election process in Nebraska, with an opportunity for state and local input, before making changes to the core of our existing system.

LB 67 would create a six-member task force to conduct a two-year examination of the election process. The intent of LB 67 is to examine the methods and procedures by which we conduct elections in the state of Nebraska, with an eye towards a balance of accuracy, consistency, efficiency and fairness. The task force would consist of: the Secretary of State; the Chairperson of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee of the Legislature; a member of the Governor's Policy Research Office; an election commissioner from a county of more than one hundred thousand inhabitants; an election commissioner or county clerk in charge of elections from a county of more than ten thousand inhabitants and less than one hundred thousand inhabitants; and a county clerk from a county with ten thousand inhabitants or less.

The task force would examine the election process in Nebraska, including the methods of voting, the methods of counting votes, the election contest procedures, and the possibility of discrimination against any class of people. The task force would also monitor possible federal action regarding elections, and could examine methods and procedures used in other states.

The task force would provide a preliminary report by March 1, 2002, and a final report, along with any recommendations for legislation by December 31, 2002.

Principal Introducer:

Senator Douglas A. Kristensen